

WI-472

1904

Marion A. Humphreys House

Salisbury

Private

The Marion A. Humphreys house is one of the best detailed of the Colonial Revival frame dwellings to stand in the Camden Historic District. Dating to 1904, the two-and-a-half story, center hall house is dominated by a colossal columned Ionic portico, and the front entrance is enhanced by beautifully crafted leaded glass windows. The blockish frame structure is trimmed with bold Colonial Revival details such as the modillion block cornice that trims the edge of the roof and the Tuscan columned porch that wraps around three sides. The broad hip roof was formerly trimmed with a rooftop balustrade that served as a crowning architectural embellishment.

This expansive and elaborate frame house was erected for Marion A. Humphreys and his family in 1904. The construction date is confirmed in an article written for the Wicomico News on December 15, 1904, which recounted the brisk pace of improvements accomplished throughout the city during the year. The newspaper stated, "The magnificent residence erected by Postmaster M. A. Humphreys on Camden Avenue will do much to improve that section of Salisbury..." Marion A. Humphreys had purchased 7 acres in "Camden" with William S. Gordy, Sr. and Graham Gunby in January 1903 in an effort to speculate on the future popularity of this expanding neighborhood. In April 1904 of the following year, Gunby and Graham conveyed their interests in "Lot No. 3" to Marion A. Humphreys. Marion and his wife Caroline retained ownership of their Colonial Revival residence until June 1920 when they conveyed title to Jesse D. Price, who assumed responsibility for the

\$4,000 mortgage balance. During the years following the stock market failure Jesse D. and Sallie A. Price mortgaged their property and ultimately lost in a foreclosure. Long-term occupants during the mid twentieth century were Curtis W. and Mary Louise Long, whose family ownership stretched from 1938 to 1968.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. W I-472

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Marion A. Humphreys House

other _____

2. Location

street and number 722 Camden Avenue

not for publication

city, town Salisbury

vicinity

county Wicomico

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Jacek and Anita B. Malik

street and number 722 Camden Camden Avenue

telephone

city, town Salisbury

state MD

zip code 21801

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court

tax map and parcel Map 114, P. 1355

city, town Salisbury, Maryland

liber 1649

folio 514

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☒ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☒ **Contributing Resource in Local Historic District**
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
district	public	agriculture		
x building(s)	x private	commerce/trade	1	buildings
structure	both	defense		sites
site		x domestic		structures
object		education		objects
		funerary	1	Total
		government		
		health care		
		industry		
		landscape		
		recreation/culture		
		religion		
		social		
		transportation		
		work in progress		
		unknown		
		vacant/not in use		
		other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

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Continuation Sheet

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7. Description

Inventory No. WI-472

Condition

	excellent	deteriorated
x	good	ruins
	fair	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Marion A. Humphreys house is located at 722 Camden Avenue in the Camden Historic District of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, three-bay by three-bay faces east.

Erected in 1904, the two-and-a-half story, center hall/double-pile frame dwelling is supported on a raised brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with plain weatherboard siding. The truncated hip roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The crest of the roof was formerly trimmed with a balustrade.

The east (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade dominated by a colossal columned portico of the Ionic order. Tall fluted Ionic columns rise two full stories and support a pediment roof. The center entrance is fitted with leaded glass within the sidelights and transom, and the front door is partially glazed. The bays to each side are filled with eight-over-one sash windows hung with louvered shutters. Sheltering the first floor to each side of the portico is a single-story Tuscan columned porch. The second floor of the house is defined by an elaborate Palladian-style door and window opening in the center bay and flanking eight-over-one sash windows to each side. Fronting the tripartite door/window is a second floor balcony of paneled posts with ball finials. The center door is flanked by four-over-one sidelights. The base of the hip roof is enhanced with a bold modillion block cornice enriched further with a dentil row. The front edge of the portico pediment is trimmed in the same way. Piercing the center of the tympanum is a half-round lunette window. Rising through the center of the house are interior brick chimneys finished with corbelled caps.

The north side of the house is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration of eight-over-one and smaller sized windows. Marking the northeast corner under the Tuscan columned porch is a bay window featuring paired sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. The second floor is lighted by three eight-over-one sash windows, and the hip roof is defined by a pair of hip roofed dormers.

The south side of the main block is finished in a similar fashion with a portion of the first floor sheltered by an extension of the Tuscan columned porch. The first and second floor are lighted by eight-over-one or six-over-one sash windows flanked by louvered shutters. The base of the roof is trimmed with the modillion block cornice, and a pair of hip roofed dormers mark the south slope of the hip roof.

The interior was not seen.

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8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
1600-1699	agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts
1700-1799	archeology	education	industry	philosophy
1800-1899	x architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government
x 1900-1999	art	entertainment/	landscape architecture	religion
2000-	commerce	recreation	law	science
	communications	ethnic heritage	literature	social history
	community planning	exploration/	maritime history	transportation
	conservation	settlement	military	other:

Significance dates

Architect

Specific dates 1904

Builder

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☒ Maryland Register

☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Marion A. Humphreys house is one of the best detailed Colonial Revival frame dwellings to stand in the Camden Historic District. Dating to 1904, the two-and-a-half story, center hall house is dominated by a Colossal columned Ionic portico, and the front entrance is enhanced with beautifully crafted leaded glass windows. The blockish frame structure is trimmed with bold Colonial Revival details such as the modillion block cornice that trims the edge of the roof and the Tuscan columned porch that wraps around three sides. The broad hip roof was formerly enhanced with a rooftop balustrade that served as a crowning architectural trim.

This expansive and elaborate frame house was erected for Marion A. Humphreys and his family in 1904. The construction date is confirmed in an article written for the *Wicomico News* on December 15, 1904 which recounted the brisk pace of improvements accomplished throughout the city during the year. The newspaper stated, "The magnificent residence erected by Postmaster M. A. Humphreys on Camden Avenue will do much to improve that section of Salisbury...."¹ Marion A. Humphreys had purchased 7 acres in "Camden" with William S. Gordy, Sr. and Graham Gunby in January 1903 in an effort to subdivide and sell lots along

¹ *Wicomico News*, December 15, 1904

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this southern extremity of the city.² In April the following year Gunby and Graham conveyed their interests in "Lot No. 3" to Marion A. Humphreys.³ Marion and his wife Caroline retained ownership of their Colonial Revival residence until June 1920 when they conveyed title to Jesse D. Price, who assumed responsibility for the \$4,000 mortgage balance.⁴ During the years following the stock market failure Jesse D. and Sallie A. Price mortgaged their property and ultimately lost it in a foreclosure.⁵ Long-term occupants during the mid twentieth century were Curtis W. and Mary Louise Long, whose family ownership stretched from 1938 to 1968.⁶

² Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 34/412, 22 January 1903.

³ Wicomico County Land Record, EAT 39/346, 4 April 1904.

⁴ Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 118/245, 11 June 1920.

⁵ Wicomico County Land Record, IDT 199/373, 9 November 1936.

⁶ Wicomico County Land Records, IDT 213/317, 18 November 1938 and JWTS 680/369, 11 October 1968.

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type: Standing Structure

Category: Dwelling

Historic Environment: Residential Neighborhood

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic

Known Design Source:

9. Major Bibliographical References

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed

Quadrangle name Salisbury, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

street & number P. O. Box 5

city or town Westover, Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7600

WI-472
Marion A. Humphreys House
722 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 114 Parcel 1355

1649/514 Helen A. Biondi

to

12/17/1998 Jacek Malik
Anita B. Bartoszko Malik
722 Camden Avenue-plat JWTS 664/59, the said David
A. Biondi having departed this life on or about 6/19/1997

AJS 972/338 R. Furman Richardson, Jr.
Judith B. Richardson

to

4/8/1982 David A. Biondi
Helen A. Biondi

JWTS 712/563 John B. Wright
Patricia M. Wright

to

7/17/1970 R. Furman Richardson, Jr.
Judith B. Richardson

JWTS 680/369 Eloise Long Trainer, et al.

to

10/11/1968 John B. Wright
Patricia M. Wright
(the said Curtis W. Long having departed this life,
12/20/1953, whereupon the title to said property became

Marion A. Humphreys House
722 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

vested absolutely in the said Mary Louise Long,
who departed this life on 3/6/1966, Will Book JAH 9/342

IDT 213/317

Home Owner's Loan Corporation

to

11/18/1938

Curtis W. Long
Mary Louise Long

IDT 199/373

Harry C. Dashiell, Assignee

to

11/9/1936

Home Owner's Loan Corporation
Whereas at a public sale, 8/1/1936, by the said Harry
C. Dashiell in pursuance of the special power vested in
him as assignee of a certain mortgage from Jesse D. Price
and Sallie A. Price to the Home Owner's Loan Corp.
10/6/1934, IDT 188/133

JCK 118/245

Marion A. Humphreys
Caroline C. Humphreys

to

6/11/1920

Jesse D. Price
....pay balance of \$4,000 remaining unpaid on mortgage
from Marion A. Humphreys to Henry W. Baker, trustee
\$5,000, 10/3/1904, EAT 41/311

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Marion A. Humphreys House
722 Camden Avenue
Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

JTT 34/412

William J. Downing

to

1/22/1903

Marion A. Humphreys
William S. Gordy, Jr.
Graham Gunby
(the said Graham Gunby and William S. Gordy having
conveyed their 2/3 interests in Lot No. 3 to Marion A.
Humphreys, 4/4/1904, EAT 39/346)

"Camden" \$2,000 7 21/100 acres

Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, Wicomico County, transcribed by
Ruth T. Dryden, 1994

p. Marion A. Humphreys, 44, Lumber Mill	Trappe District
Carline R.	40
Anne	17
James E.	16
William J.	14
Julia E.	11

50' NW
HEBRON

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

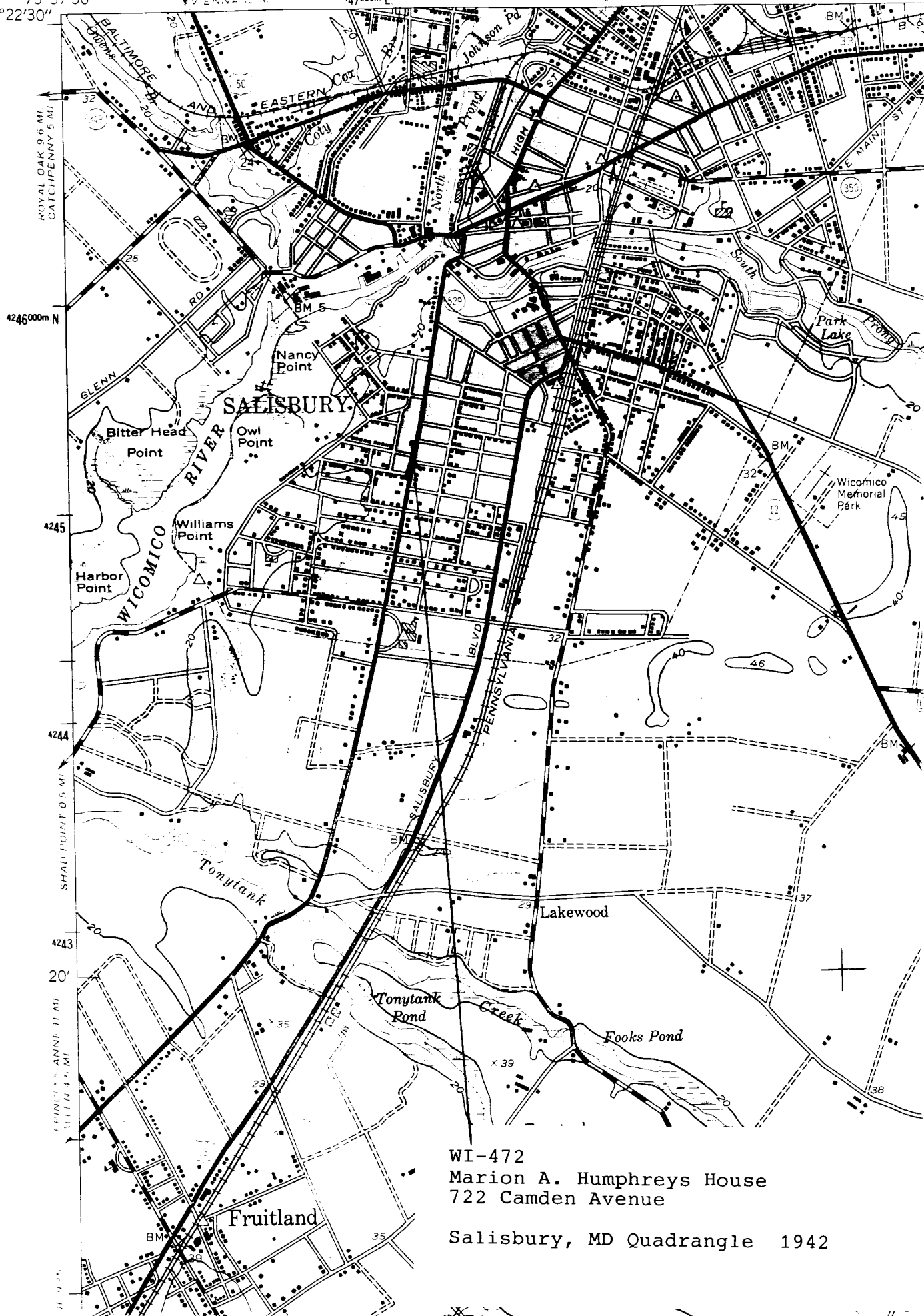
75°37'30"
38°22'30"

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI.
VIENNA 15 MI.

477000m E

LAUREL 13 MI.
DELMAR 6 MI.

35'



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Marion A. Humphreys House
722 Camden Avenue

Salisbury, MD Quadrangle 1942



NI-472

Monroe St. Houston 2 1/2 mi. S.E.
San Juan River 1/2 mi. N.E.
East corner of

9/20/00. From Tuxant, Pitman road
along road to San Juan River

1 of 1